

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, claim 11 is objected to, for the reason set forth on page 2 of the present Office Action. Applicant amends claim 11, as indicated herein, and believes that this amendment obviates the Examiner's rejection of claim 11.

Claims 1-11 are all the claims pending in the present application. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Mano *et al.*, (U.S. Patent No.: 5,793,366), hereinafter referred to as Mano, in view of Lawande *et al.*, (U.S. Patent No.: 6,405,247), hereinafter referred to as Lawande.

With respect to independent claim 1, in the previous amendment, Applicant argued that Mano does not teach or suggest at least "receiving a predetermined signal that indicates changes in the operation states of the server devices from the server devices by the client device and displaying the change in the operation state of a specific server device on a screen thereof," as recited in claim 1. That is, Applicant previously argued that nowhere does Mano disclose that a "client device" receives a predetermined signal that indicates changes in the operation states of server devices and displays the change in the operation state of server devices. In the present Office Action, the Examiner does not address this previously presented argument, and just cites the same portions of Mano as set forth in the previous Office Action. The Examiner also adds Lawande as a secondary reference, however the Examiner does not even mention the above-quoted limitation with respect to Lawande. Further, upon review of Lawande, there is not even a single mention of a client device therein. Therefore, the applied references clearly do not teach or suggest at least "receiving a predetermined signal that indicates changes in the operation states of the server devices from the server devices by the client device and displaying the change in

the operation state of a specific server device on a screen thereof,” (emphasis added) as recited in claim 1. At least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that the claimed invention, as recited in claim 1, is patentably distinguishable over Mano and Lawande.

Applicant submits that dependent claims 2-4, 8, and 9 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 1. Further, with respect to dependent claim 2, the Examiner maintains the same arguments set forth in the previous Office Action with respect to claim 2, and does not respond to the specific arguments set forth in the previous Amendment regarding the patentability of claim 2 over applied reference Mano. Therefore, at least based on the previously submitted arguments, Applicant maintains that dependent claim 2 contains allowable subject matter. Lawande does not make up for the deficiencies of Mano with respect to the features of claim 2. The Examiner does not even discuss Lawande with respect to the features of claim 2.

Applicant submits that independent claims 5 and 6 are patentable at least for reasons similar to those set forth above for claim 1.¹ Claims 5 and 6 recite features similar to the features set forth above with respect to claim 1. With respect to dependent claim 10, Applicant submits that this claim is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency from independent claim 6.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

¹ Claim 5 was previously allowed, however, it is presently rejected. The Examiner, however, does not even mention the specific limitations of claim 5.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. APPLN. NO.: 09/445,769

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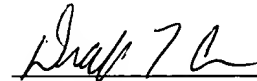
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